

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

of the County of Los Angeles

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September 03, 2013

The Honorable Board of Commissioners Community Development Commission County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Commissioners:

ADOPTED

Community Development Commission

2-D September 3, 2013

SACHI A. HAMAI EXECUTIVE OFFICER

APPROVAL OF FUNDS FOR COSTS RELATED TO THE ACQUISITION OF AN EXISTING BUILDING IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH FOR CHILDREN TODAY (DISTRICT 4) (3 VOTE)

SUBJECT

This letter requests that your Board approve the transfer of up to \$275,000 in County General Funds, specifically Homeless Service Center Funds allocated to the Fourth Supervisorial District, to the Community Development Commission (Commission). The funds will then be granted to Children Today for acquisition costs for an existing building in the City of Long Beach, which will house Children Today and provide space to expand their homeless services program.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

- 1. Authorize the Executive Director or his designee to execute all required documents necessary to accept and incorporate into the Commission's approved Fiscal Year 2013-2014 budget up to \$275,000 in County General Funds, specifically Homeless Service Center Funds allocated to the Fourth Supervisorial District, which includes \$25,000 (10%) for administrative costs.
- 2. Authorize the Executive Director or his designee to negotiate, execute, amend, and if necessary, terminate a Grant Agreement with Children Today in a total amount of up to \$250,000 in County General Funds allocated to the Fourth Supervisorial District, for acquisition costs for an existing building located at 2951 Long Beach Blvd., in the City of Long Beach, to be effective following receipt of County General Funds from the Chief Executive Office, approval of the Grant Agreement as to form by County Counsel, and execution by all parties.
- 3. Find that the approval of funds for the acquisition and rehabilitation of the new Children Today

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services building is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the reasons stated in this letter and the record of the project.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is to authorize the Commission to enter into a Grant Agreement with Children Today for up to \$250,000 to fund costs related to the acquisition of an existing building in the City of Long Beach. Children Today will use the facility as their new homeless services building, allowing them to merge two programs currently operating in two leased spaces and eventually expand their capacity from 64 to 100 children served daily.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The proposed actions described herein will be funded with a portion of County General Funds known as Homeless Service Center Funds. Approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 4, 2006 as part of the Homeless Prevention Initiative, these funds are used for programs and costs associated with services, operations, and capital projects for individuals and families who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. Each Supervisorial District has an annual allocation of \$1,425,000 to fund such programs.

The Fourth District has allocated \$275,000 for this effort: \$250,000 to be granted to Children Today and a \$25,000 (10%) administrative fee for the Commission. These funds will be incorporated into the Commission's approved Fiscal Year 2013-2014 budget as needed.

The remaining acquisition, rehabilitation and program costs will be funded by Children Today's fundraising efforts.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Since 1997, Children Today has committed itself to being a safe haven for some of the most vulnerable people in Long Beach: young children and families experiencing homelessness. Through their Play House programs, 1,000 children, ages six weeks to six years have received the highest quality early care and education. Children Today is a founding member of the Long Beach Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program, which is comprised of a dozen agencies offering critical services to help people experiencing homelessness get back on their feet.

Children Today plans to acquire a building located at 2951 Long Beach Blvd., in the City of Long Beach, which will be used as their new services building. Following building renovations, service programs currently located in two leased spaces will be consolidated with program operations in the new building, enabling Children Today to reduce overhead expenses and eventually increase their capacity from 64 to 100 children served daily.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

This project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA. The project, acquisition and renovation of an existing structure, has been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines and Class 1 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G. In addition, the project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual

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circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the project records.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of these actions will enable Children Today to be a safe haven for young children and families experiencing homelessness, including providing quality early care and education to homeless children. This will increase the County's capacity to meet the social services needs of young children and families experiencing homelessness.

Respectfully submitted,

SEAN ROGAN

Executive Director

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